


ST. NEOTS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*With the Compliments
of the
Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector*

COUNCIL OFFICES,
32^A, NEW STREET,
ST. NEOTS, HUNTS.



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ST. NEOTS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1968

To the Chairman and Members of the St. Neots Rural District Council.
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District for the year 1968.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population. I find it difficult to reconcile the Registrar General's estimated population figure for 1968 which, according to him, shows a decrease of 70 over the previous year's figure. It is hard to believe this figure in view of the fact that there has been an increase in the residential development in the district compared with previous years.

Birth Rate. There were 184 births credited to the district this year — an increase of 15 over the number for 1967. The birth rate is consequently raised to a level somewhat in excess of last year's rate and well in advance of the figure for England and Wales as a whole.

Death Rate. There were slightly fewer deaths in 1968 compared with 1967, hence the death rate for the district (8.9) is fractionally lower this year and continues to be well below the national average (11.9). 43% of deaths were due primarily to diseases of the cardio-vascular system and 27% were due to malignant disease. It is a pleasing feature to note the complete absence of Infant Mortality this year.

Infectious Disease. Notifiable Infectious Disease remained at a fairly low level during the year, there being 112 notifications received. By far the greatest majority of these were in respect of Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Measles.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Water Supply. Generally speaking the water supply throughout the district has continued to be satisfactory from a qualitative as well as quantitative point of view. Regular sampling at the source as well as throughout the distribution system has ensured a high bacteriological standard of this commodity and I am pleased to note that a chemical analysis is being undertaken from time to time, by the Nene and Ouse Water Board.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. Completion of the main drainage of Hail Weston was achieved in 1968 and a start made on a similar scheme to cater for the Parishes of Yelling, Toseland and Great Paxton. Good progress has been maintained with this latter scheme and it is hoped that it will be in operation by the middle of next year. The Council are to be commended on the fact that every effort is made to connect all properties to the main sewer at the Council's own expense.

The sewerage of Grafham is hoped to be undertaken following the completion of the Toseland, Yelling and Great Paxton scheme and considerable enlargement of the Buckden Disposal works is necessary to cater for the increasing development in the Buckden and Offord areas.

Some progress has also been made with the initial plans for the main drainage of Abbotsley, Great Gransden and Waresley and it is hoped that these plans will soon begin to take a more permanent shape.

Housing. Private development continued with increased momentum in 1968 and many new properties were erected, particularly in the Parishes of Buckden, Little Paxton and Offord. Eight new Council dwellings were completed and by the end of the year a further eight dwellings were under construction in the Parish of Buckden.

Considerable attention has been paid to Council house maintenance and repairs were undertaken where necessary. Plans to modernise twenty-two Council dwellings were proposed and it is hoped to proceed with these improvements at an early date.

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Fawcett and all other members of the Department's Staff for the assistance they have given me and for all the work they have done during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CALDWELL.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health,

J. CALDWELL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.A., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor :

M. FAWCETT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(Telephone St. Neots 2402/3 and Buckden 282).

Additional Public Health Inspectors and Assistant Surveyors :

W. MURRAY, M.A.P.H.I.

(Telephone Buckden 746)

G. D. OLIPHANT, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.R.S.H.

(Telephone St. Neots 3226)

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area : 51,739 acres (approximately 80 square miles).

Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1968 : 3,172.

Rateable Value of the District : £263,640.

Value of a Penny Rate : £1,050.

Estimated Population (Mid 1967) : 9,100.

Estimated Population (Mid 1968) : 9,600.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

Housing, Public Health and Sewerage Committee :

Chairman : Councillor P. G. Witherow resigned January, 1969
Councillor J. G. Wills from January, 1969

Members : Councillor C. E. L. Beeson.
Councillor E. Bowles.
Councillor Mrs. E. M. Brown.
Councillor J. H. Christmas.
Councillor E. R. M. Davis.
Councillor Mrs. A. M. Dickens.
Councillor Mrs. A. M. Gibbins.
Councillor G. M. Hunter.
Councillor E. J. Mann.
Councillor Mrs. A. D. Marr.
Councillor S. Mear.
Councillor W. G. Page.
Councillor Mrs. D. M. Peck.
Councillor Mrs M. E. Robinson.
Councillor H. Storey.
Councillor M. Ward.
Councillor W. J. Watson.
Councillor Rev. G. Whitlock.
Councillor G. H. Wood.

Finance and Rating Committee :

Chairman : Councillor J. H. Christmas.

Planning and Building Regulations Committee :

Chairman : Councillor W. J. Watson.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Gibbins.

Clerk of the Council :

D. J. Dear to 31st July, 1968.

M. Fawcett from 1st August, 1968. (Acting Clerk).

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Estimated mid year home population 9,030.

LIVE BIRTHS

		M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	..	94	85	179	Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population .. 20.4
Illegitimate	..	4	1	5	Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.05) .. 21.4
Totals	..	98	86	184	Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales) .. 16.9

STILLBIRTHS

Legitimate	..	1	2	3	Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births .. 16.0
Illegitimate	..	—	—	—	Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births (England and Wales) .. 14.0
Totals	..	1	2	3	

DEATHS

					Death rate per 1,000 estimated population .. 8.2
		33	41	74	Death rate corrected by Comparability factor (1.09) .. 8.9
					Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England & Wales) .. 11.9

INFANT MORTALITY. Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.

Legitimate	..	—	—	—	Infant Mortality rate (deaths of infants under 1 yr. per 1,000 Live Births) .. Nil
Illegitimate	..	—	—	—	Infant Mortality rate (England and Wales) .. 18.0
Totals		—	—	—	

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks	—	—	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	—	—	—
1 and under 5 years	1	—	1
5 and under 15 years	—	1	1
15 and under 25 years	2	2	4
25 and under 35 years	—	1	1
35 and under 45 years	—	—	—
45 and under 55 years	3	2	5
55 and under 65 years	5	6	11
65 and under 75 years	12	7	19
75 years and over	10	22	32
Totals	33	41	74

The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the district over the past 5 years :—

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
POPULATION.	8130	8,290	8500	9100	9,030
BIRTHS.					
Total live births	153	151	159	169	179
Crude Birth Rate	18.8	18.2	18.7	18.6	20.4
Area Comparability Factor	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.05	1.05
Corrected Birth Rate (C.F. 1.13)	20.1	19.5	20.0	19.5	21.4
Birth Rate (England & Wales)	18.4	18.1	17.7	17.2	16.9
DEATHS.					
Total Deaths	70	72	84	77	74
Crude Death Rate	8.6	8.7	9.9	8.5	8.2
Area Comparability Factor	1.03	1.04	1.05	1.11	1.09
Corrected Death Rate	8.9	9.0	10.4	9.4	8.9
Death Rate (England & Wales)	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING 1968

	Total cases Notified.		
Scarlet Fever	11
Whooping Cough	18
Diphtheria	—
Measles	67
Acute Pneumonia	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Typhoid Fever	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—
Erysipelas	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	—
Infective Hepatitis	3
Food Poisoning	1
Dysentery	5
Total	110

TUBERCULOSIS

Total Number on Register at 31st December, 1968 .. 29

Pulmonary 24

Non-pulmonary 5

New Cases Diagnosed

New Cases—Transfers

Age Periods	Respiratory.		Non-Res.		Respiratory.		Non-Res	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25								
35								
45	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
55								
65 & upwards								
Total ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952. in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar General's List)

List No.	Causes	Male	Female
B19(1)	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	—
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	—
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5
B19(6)	Other malignant neoplasms etc.	4	8
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	—	2
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	—
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	—
B27	Hypertensive Disease	1	1
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	7	6
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	2
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	2	6
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	3
B32	Pneumonia	2	1
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	1
B46(6)	Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	—
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	1
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—
B46(8)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	1
B46(10)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	1
EE47	Motor vehicle accidents	1	1
BE48	All other accidents	—	1
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	—
Total all causes		33	41

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following Laboratory facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area :

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.
Tel Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst, (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tenison Road,
Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 2097.

(b) Ambulance Service

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctors' orders (Tel. Huntingdon 3348).

(c) Home Nursing

Nurse-Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity cases in the District.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

(i) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council :—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	Every Monday, 9.30—10.30 a.m.	Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon.
Infant Welfare	Children (0—5 years)	Thursday, 2—4 p.m.	Child Health Centre,
		and 2nd Monday in month 2—4 p.m.	Almond Rd., St. Neots.
		1st and 3rd Wednesday in month, 2—4 p.m.	The Surgery, High Street, Kimbolton.
		2nd and 4th Wednesday in month, 2—4 p.m.	The Surgery, Silver Street, Buckden.
Dental	Pre-School and School- children.	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Almond Rd., St. Neots.
	Pre-natal and nursing mothers.	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Nursery Rd., Huntingdon.

(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board :

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages.	Every Thursday, 10 a.m.—12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Disease	All cases	Tuesday from 2.30 p.m. Thursday from 2.30 p.m.	Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge.
	Males	Monday from 4.30 p.m. Wednesday from 5.30 p.m.	Memorial Hospital,
	Females	Tuesday from 10.30 a.m. Thursday from 4.30 p.m.	Out-patients Department, Peterborough.
Orthopaedic	Pre-School and School- children.	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Almond Rd., St. Neots.
		2nd & 4th Tuesday (Surgeon by appoint- ment) 10 a.m.— 12 noon.	Child Health Centre, Nursery Rd., Huntingdon.

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service :

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and School- children.	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Nursery Rd., Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Obstetrical Gynaecological, Paediatric and Dental out-patient clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services

Fever—Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely. General Hospital Services are provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases are admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Unit, Huntingdon and Mill Road Maternity Hospital, Cambridge.

Clinics run by the Family Planning Association are held at the Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon, every Wednesday evening 7—8 p.m. and the Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St. Neots, every Tuesday evening 7—8 p.m. and the 1st and 3rd Thursday from 9—11.30 a.m., and the Child Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives, on the 2nd and 4th Monday from 9—11.30 a.m.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

— YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1968

WATER SUPPLY.

The following information has been supplied by the Engineer to the Nene and Ouse Water Board.

All water consumed in the area, apart from the Kimbolton District, is now derived from the Brampton source. This consists of mixed gravel and river water, coagulated, filtered, softened and chlorinated.

The quality of the water has been satisfactory, but once or twice the chlorine dose has been extra heavy to ensure that the water is satisfactory bacteriologically. The quantity of water has also been satisfactory. Small stand-by gravel well stations are always available for peak demands and emergencies.

No further action or samples have been taken with regard to fluoridation.

No bacteriological samples of raw water were taken. Bacteriological samples of water going into supply were satisfactory. Samples are taken from the Brampton Treatment Works weekly. Chemical sample satisfactory.

Plumbo-solvency was examined in collaboration with the Medical Officer of Health and the pH values were not less than 7.5 and there was no action on lead. Samples were taken at Brampton and Great Paxton for this purpose.

The average daily consumption in the area was 48.5 g.p.h. and it is made up of 36.2 domestic and 12.3 metered supplies.

The Board's Engineer comments that there are points for and against taking stored water from Grafham Reservoir to the Brampton Treatment Works instead of direct from the river, but he believes it is possible that eventually the quality of the river water may deteriorate sufficiently in the future so that water will have to be piped from Grafham to Brampton.

It is expected that the construction of the first half of the Toseland Reservoir (0.5 million gallons) will commence in the present Financial Year. Ministry Approval has been received in principle, but approval is still awaited for the extension of the Brampton Treatment Works. New pumps will be installed at Buckden Reservoir to keep pace with the development in the Perry Area.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF TREATED WATER.

The Council's Officers obtained bacteriological water samples as follows. 32 satisfactory samples, 1 unsatisfactory sample. The unsatisfactory sample was notified to the Water Board for their immediate attention.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

No samples taken.

ANNUAL RAINFALL — at Great Gransden Hall, 24.19 inches. Rain fell on 164 days. The total rainfall is above average. I wish to thank E. W. R. Bolden, Esq., for this information.

PRIVATE WELLS.

No action was necessary in connection with private water supplies.

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are six private permanent swimming pools in the area and it appears that they have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

During the swimming season 3 satisfactory bacteriological samples were taken at Kimbolton School Swimming Pool.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Parishes having foul sewers now being Kimbolton, Great Staughton, Buckden, Little Paxton, Southoe, Offord Darcy, Offord Cluny, Perry, the Model Farm area of Grafham, Hail Weston and Diddington.

At the end of 1968 all properties in Hail Weston had been connected to the new sewer and only one case was outstanding for the provision of a water closet. This is not being proceeded with at present as it is possible the house will be demolished to make way for future development.

Some progress with regard to bathroom improvements and modernisations schemes was achieved by the Private Estate owning the Village of Diddington. It is not expected that the properties in this Village will all be dealt with for a period of about three years.

The sewerage and sewerage disposal scheme covering the Villages of Yelling, Toseland and Great Paxton was commenced during 1968 and good progress with this scheme has been maintained during the year. Most of the sewer laying in Great Paxton and Toseland Parishes has been completed and the Great Paxton and Yelling Pumping Stations have been erected. The construction of the Disposal Works is progressing satisfactorily and the pumping main from Great Paxton to Toseland has been laid. It is hoped that the scheme will be in operation in mid-1969. In accordance with their usual procedure the Council are encouraging the owners of properties to modernise them and obtain Improvement Grants or Grants under the Public Health Act for the provision of w.c.'s only where this is considered to be reasonable. All properties as far as practicable will be connected to the sewer as part of the scheme at the Council's expense.

A little more progress has been achieved in connection with the Abbotsley, Great Gransden, Waresley Joint Scheme in that certain pumping station and possible sewerage disposal sites have now been agreed with the owners and the Planning Authority.

After the completion of the Toseland, Yelling and Great Paxton Scheme it is the Council's intention to proceed with the sewerage of Grafham and the enlargement of the Buckden Disposal Works to accommodate Grafham and also the large number of extra dwellings built in the Buckden and Offord areas which will necessitate a doubling in size of the existing Buckden Works. It is hoped to have Ministry Approval to commence this Scheme late in 1969.

The Council have now agreed terms for the reception of trade effluent from the Potato Washing Plant at Offord and they are in negotiations with a farmer in Buckden for a similar agreement regarding the disposal of farm trade effluent from his property.

Close co-operation with the Pollution Officer of the Great Ouse River Authority has continued during the year and the following samples of effluent have been taken :—

Buckden Works — 3 satisfactory samples.

Kimbolton Works — 3 satisfactory samples and 1 unsatisfactory sample (due to snow).

Hail Weston Works—2 satisfactory samples and 2 unsatisfactory samples (1 due to snow and the other due to the Works being new and the filter beds not in full operation, which was rectified by re-circulating all the effluent for a time).

When the Grafham and Abbotsley, Great Gransden and Waresley Joint Schemes have been carried out the Parishes still urgently requiring sewers will be Catworth, Covington, Tilbrook and Stow Longa.

Most of the sludge from the sewage works is now disposed of at Buckden Refuse Tip by means of burial and only a small amount is disposed of to a local farmer.

One pipe sewer received attention during the year and two pumping mains were damaged and repaired. 59 private cesspools were emptied and 660 loads of sewerage were removed from Council cesspools or sewage tanks during the year.

Owing to increased flows it is thought that it will be necessary to install comminutor in the main sewage pumping station at Little Paxton during 1969 to avoid frequent blocking of the screens. Also during 1968 the central columns of the filter beds at Kimbolton were dismantled and returned to the Works for overhauling.

**STATISTICS OF HOUSES, WATER SUPPLIES, BATHS, W.C.'s,
E.C.'s, ETC.
EXISTING ON THE 31st DECEMBER, 1968.**

Number of Proper- ties	Water Supplies Inside Pipes	Stand Pte.	Baths	Number of houses with W.C.s	E.C.s	Public Sewers	Parish
115	114	—	1	88	90	25 No	Abbotsley
600	598	—	2	548	596	4 Yes	Buckden
100	96	1	3	63	64	36 No	Catworth
33	29	1	3	26	27	6 No	Covington
44	44	—	—	11	11	33 Yes	Diddington
31	31	—	—	25	25	6 No	Eynesbury Hdwk.
73	73	—	—	41	41	32 Part	Grafham
193	190	1	2	158	153	40 No	Gransden, Great
102	102	—	—	95	99	3 Yes	Hail Weston
310	310	—	—	289	307	3 Yes	Kimbolton
151	149	2	—	144	149	2 Yes	Offord Cluny
164	161	1	2	146	162	2 Yes	Offord Darcy
132	132	—	—	110	106	26 No	Paxton, Great
362	360	—	2	359	361	1 Yes	Paxton, Little
21	21	—	—	19	19	2 No	St. Neots Rural
103	99	—	4	96	97	6 Yes	Southoe Midloe
295	289	1	5	249	279	16 Yes	Staughton, Great
41	41	—	—	35	33	8 No	Stow Longa
22	13	—	9	21	21	1 No	Tetworth
81	79	1	1	70	71	10 No	Tilbrook
42	36	5	1	15	15	27 No	Toseland
69	63	1	5	61	58	11 No	Waresley
88	85	—	3	54	46	42 No	Yelling
3172	3115	14	43	2723	2830	342	TOTAL 1968
3002	2940	17	45	2504	2612	390	TOTAL 1967
+ 170	+ 175	—3	—2	+ 219	+ 218	—48	

Number of E.C.s converted in year	—	48
Number of baths installed in year	—	49
% of water supply inside houses from public mains	—	98.2
% of water supply inside houses from all mains	—	99.56
% of W.C.s in houses	—	89.22
% of Baths in houses	—	85.84

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT — NUISANCES.

The maggot breeding plant referred to in the Report for 1967 ceased to operate during 1968.

The intensive pig breeding also referred to in the 1967 Report was subject to enforcement action under the Planning Acts during late 1968, and the result not yet known.

During the year it was necessary to exercise statutory authority under Section 25 of the Public Health Act, 1961, in connection with a derelict and dilapidated workshop in the area which was a danger to the public passing by on the adjacent highway. The Council took steps to make the building safe and to recover the cost from the owner.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The weekly collection of household refuse starting in 1967 throughout the whole of the Rural District, continued during 1968. The chief difficulty is in obtaining and retaining suitable labour to operate this service. During the year 554 loads of household refuse were collected and 668 loads of sewerage sludge, cesspool contents or nightsoil were collected and disposed of.

It is pleasing to note a further decline in the number of pail closets in the area and this decline should be accelerated when the Great Paxton, Toseland and Yelling Sewerage Scheme is in operation.

The average cost of dealing with each dustbin and/or pail is approximately 1/3d.

No difficulties have been encountered during the year with the paper sack system and at the end of the year it was decided to continue the system with plastic type paper sack holders instead of galvanised iron.

Several collections of bulky unwanted household refuse and abandoned vehicles were dealt with under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act of 1967 as outlined in the 1967 Report. The County Council deferred action regarding proposed joint system with all District Councils for dealing with abandoned motor vehicles.

LITTER.

The arrangements made with Parish Councils, the Highway Authority and the Great Ouse Water Authority for the provision of litter bins and clearance of same continued to operate satisfactorily during the year and more litter baskets were provided in certain Parishes at the request of the Parish Councils.

PETROLEUM STORAGE LICENCES.

61 licences were issued for 1968, and three new installations were approved in principle by the Council, subject to satisfactory installation and testing.

The pre-payment self-service petrol pump referred to in last years Report was installed and appears to operate satisfactorily.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

At the end of 1968 there were 18 individual residential caravan site licences in force plus 7 site licences for 3 or more residential caravan sites and a further 3 site licences for 3 or more holiday caravan sites.

The total number of caravans was 56 residential and 19 holiday caravans stationed on these sites.

Also one site has been licensed for camping for the maximum of six tents and a further un-licensed camping site is in use occasionally.

35 visits were made to caravan and camping sites during the year and no serious conditions were found requiring action by the Authority.

COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE.

1,373 inspections were carried out and 739 orders were issued for repairs. All repairs have been carried out by private builders and contractors.

During the year plans were prepared for the modernisation of six houses in Great Paxton and sixteen in Yelling.

The defective damp course in four Council houses in Toseland was replaced during the year.

NEW BUILDINGS.

388 plans of new buildings were deposited and 1,565 visits were made to inspect the work in progress. The amount of building work taking place in the area is still about four times the level of that prevailing four years ago and the District is still expanding rapidly.

MILK DAIRIES.

No action was necessary during the year.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	162	Nil	Nil	590	5201	Nil
Number inspected	162	Nil	Nil	590	5201	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	53	Nil	Nil	11	715	Nil
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and Cysticerci	32.7%	Nil	Nil	1.8%	13.7%	Nil
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cysticercosis.						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally con- demned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

FOOD INSPECTIONS, INCLUDING SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

66 inspections of food premises were made. 182 tons 12 cwt, 26 lbs. of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. The majority of this foodstuff consisted of vegetables and fruit from a large distribution depot situated in the area. 174 visits were made to the Slaughterhouse for the purpose of meat inspection. The licences for six slaughtermen were renewed as from October 1st, 1968. All slaughtering is confined to the Kimbolton Slaughterhouse. It will be noticed that the pig slaughtering has increased during the year and I believe it is likely to increase still further demanding more of the Inspector's time upon meat inspection work.

During the year one premises was registered under the Food and Drug Act, 1955, for the sale of ice-cream, or the manufacture of sausages, cooked meat, etc. There is now a total of 52 such premises on the Council's register.

The number of food premises in the area is 87 as follows :—

6	Butchers.
35	Public Houses or Hotels.
32	General Stores
8	Caterers.
5	Bakers.
1	Fruit Farm.

The majority of these are small family businesses and all of them comply with Regulation 16 and Regulation 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, where applicable.

There are no poultry processing premises within the District, although a number of poultry farmers send undressed carcasses to markets outside this area.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963.

One licence was renewed during the year covering a boarding establishment for 27 cats.

NEW HOUSING.

During 1968 eight new Council dwellings were completed, four flats in Buckden and 4 houses in Little Paxton. At the end of the year the Council therefore owned 563 houses plus 20 prefabricated bungalows.

At the end of the year four flats and four bungalows were under erection in Buckden Parish.

175 new private dwellings were completed during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the Council's area.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

28 standard or discretionary improvement grant schemes were completed during 1968, making a total of 370 private houses on which grants have been paid since the dates of the Acts. Many other schemes have been approved and are in progress. Of course all Council houses are improved by means of similar grants as soon as ever the Villages in question are sewered and the figures quoted above do not include Council houses.

Four Official Demolition Orders were made during the year, 6 houses were demolished following either action under the Housing Acts in earlier years or by informal approach to the owners concerned.

HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

The annual revision of the Housing Waiting List shows that there are a total of 68 applicants. This is 6 less than in the previous year. The general housing need still remains about the same and there are comparatively few really urgent cases requiring re-housing. 19 applicants were classified as Priority, 8 as Reduced Priority and 41 as Non-Priority. The chief reasons for placing people in the Priority Classes are condemned houses, overcrowding, elderly people living in houses too big for their needs or on medical grounds, people approaching retirement living in tied houses, etc. Reduced Priority is given to people living in caravans and people transferring to work in the area until they have resided in the area for a reasonable length of time. The really urgent cases requiring re-housing still only amount to about twelve or so cases, and the building programme provides for their needs generally. In addition to the above 23 existing Council house tenants request transfers to either larger or smaller accommodation.

HOUSING TABLE

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—		
(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	298
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	581
(2)	Total number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	8
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..	9
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—		
(a)	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers, excluding those dealt with by Improvement Grants ..	7
(b)	Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit with the assistance of Improvement Grants ..	28
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—		
(A)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 16 and 24 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ..	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ..	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
(C)	Proceedings under Sections 17, 26 and 28 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..	4
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..	6
(3)	Number of houses closed during the year ..	1
(4)	Number of families displaced during the year ..	1
(D)	Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—	
(1)	Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	Nil
(2)	Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, having being rendered fit ..	Nil
(E)	Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act, 1957 :—	
CLEARANCE AREAS :—		
(1)	Number of Clearance Areas declared during the year ..	Nil
(2)	Total number of houses included in (1) above ...	Nil
(3)	Number of houses included by reason of unfitness for human habitation ...	Nil
(4)	Number of houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ...	Nil
(5)	Number of families displaced during the year ..	Nil
(6)	Number of houses demolished during the year ..	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1957—Part IV, Overcrowding :—

(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	1
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	4
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the yr.	Nil
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the yr.	Nil
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	.. Nil
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	... Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	.. Nil

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT.

Eight persons or firms are registered.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1968.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

		Non- Agricultural 3172	Agricultural 205
1.	Number of properties in district ..		
2.	(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification ..	192	
	(b) Number infested by:		
	(i) Rats ..	110	—
	(ii) Mice ..	Nil	—
3.	(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification ..	15	—
	(b) Number infested by :		
	(i) Rats ..	7	—
	(ii) Mice ..	Nil	—

SEWERS

4.	Sewers infested by rats during the year ..	Nil (Test baited 164 Manholes)
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FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of :— Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	10	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	56	6	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	28	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ..	94	6	Nil	Nil

Many visits are made to building sites for Building Regulations purposes and these are not included in the above table of inspections, but nevertheless the opportunity is taken of checking the sanitary accommodation available for the workmen.

OUTWORKERS.

Number of outworkers on April list required by Section 110 were as follows :—

Wearing Apparel, Making, etc. ..	4
Stuffed toys	—
Total ..	4

No cases of default in sending in lists were known, there were no prosecutions and no instances of work in unwholesome premises.

OFFICES, SHOPS, AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices ..	Nil	6	Nil
Retail Shops ..	Nil	11	Nil
Wholesale Shops, Ware- houses ..	Nil	1	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	Nil	3	Nil
Fuel Storage Depots ..	Nil	1	Nil
Totals	Nil	22	Nil

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT 25

In this Schedule —

“general inspection” means any inspection of premises to which the Act applies which is undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining whether all the relevant provisions of the Act and instruments thereunder are complied with as respects those premises ; and “registered premises” means any

premises in respect of which a notice under section 49 of the Act has been received by a local authority or by the Greater London Council and the expression "premises registered" shall be construed accordingly.

25 visits were made for the purpose of checking premises in the area which came under the provisions of this act, during the year no general inspections were made.

The number of persons employed in these premises totalled 67.

34	..	..	..	Males
33	..	..	..	Females

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

		Number of Contraventions found				
Section	4	Cleanliness	..	..	..	—
	5	Overcrowding	..	..	..	—
	6	Temperature	..	..	..	—
	7	Ventilation	..	..	..	—
	8	Lighting	..	..	..	—
	9	Sanitary Conveniences	..	..	..	—
	10	Washing Facilities	..	..	..	—
	11	Supply of drinking water	..	..	..	—
	12	Clothing Accommodation	..	..	..	—
	13	Sitting Facilities	..	..	..	—
	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	..	..	..	—
	15	Eating Facilities	..	..	..	—
	16	Floors, Passage and Stairs	..	..	..	—
	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	..	..	..	—
	18	Protection of young person from dangerous machinery				—
	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	..	..	..	—
	23	Prohibition of heavy work	..	..	..	—
	24	First Aid, General provisions	..	..	..	—
	50	No Abstract of Act displayed	..	..	..	—
TOTAL			..	..	..	None

GENERAL REMARKS.

Almost all the premises covered by this Act are small businesses and steps were taken during the year to visit all premises and in particular those premises where in previous years minor defects had been noted. In all cases these defects have now been remedied.

One difficulty upon keeping a check on these premises is the change over in staff which in some cases puts premises outside the scope of the Act because as an example — the one and only employee changes from full-time to part-time working. However, I do not think there are any serious problems in this area with regard to compliance with the provisions of this Act.

ANALYSIS OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE :—

Housing	..	300
Council House Maintenance	..	1373
Houses, etc., Under P.H. Act, 1936	..	331
Supervision erection of new buildings	..	1565
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	..	432
Post-war housing	..	415
Drains Tested	..	213
Overcrowding	..	Nil
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	49
Food Premises, Vehicles, etc.	..	66
Rats and Mice (Inspectors and Operator)	..	207
Miscellaneous	..	269
Moveable Dwellings	..	35
Factories	..	6
Housing Applications	..	37
Petroleum	..	27
Slaughterhouses	..	174
Ice Cream samples taken	..	Nil
Water samples taken (Chemical)	..	Nil
Water samples taken (Bacteriological)	..	33
Street Nameplates	..	18
Animal Boarding Establishment	..	Nil
Planning	..	159
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	..	25
Scrap Metal Dealers	..	Nil
Infectious Disease	..	Nil

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